

May-June, 2010

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EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

ADDIS ABABA • ETHIOPIA



U.S. Department of State

Regional Environment Newsletter—East Africa

REO Highlights—The Office of OES/PCI organized an Africa ESTH conference in conjunction with the U.S. host Embassy in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. Thanks to both Matt Gerdin and Emily Shaffer for all the hard

work in pulling off a successful conference that included OES Assistant Secretary Kerri-Ann Jones, among others. See the readout on pages 6-7. This May-June 2010 issue also highlights how to address energy sector

challenges to attract US investment, it provides a status update of where we are on the Nile Basin Initiative, a brief on ongoing Clinton Climate Initiative Projects in eastern Africa, and a roundup of regional conservation issues.

East Africa Energy Buzz: USG Export Strategy, Reform in Africa, and ECAs

President Obama, in his May 2010 speech that launched his administration's multipart national export initiative of doubling exports within five years, instructed the federal government to use every available federal resource to boost U.S. exports. The order created an "export promotion cabinet," made up of the secretaries of State, Treasury, Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor, the US Trade Representative, and other officials. Moreover, the President revived a separate body that will make recommendations on trade policy, called the President's Export Council, and named Boeing CEO Jim McNerney and Xerox CEO Ursula Burns as co-chairs. Multiple cabinet departments will help create a "one-stop shop" for small employers that want help identifying opportunities and setting up operations overseas. The effort will include embassies and consulates abroad, as well as agencies like the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce. President Obama also pledged to promote new free-trade agreements while also enforcing laws on the books, such as intellectual-property rights. In addition, Obama pledged to be a kind of salesman in chief for US companies, with him and his cabinet

members plugging the virtues of "made in America" when they travel overseas. Most important to those of us working to promote US investment in Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly the potentially lucrative renewable energy sector, the administration's plan calls for increased access to trade financing. **U.S. Investment Interest—Needs Assistance:** Potential for U.S. private sector investment exists in geothermal, biofuel, biomass, solar, wind, and hydro if rates and private investment options are competitive. For example, US renewable energy investors are anxiously awaiting Ethiopia's finalized feed-in tariff bill, which will state the rates and conditions for selling energy to the national grid. With much of eastern Africa suffering from severe energy shortages, renewable energy development—particularly in the virtually untapped geothermal sector throughout the African Rift Valley—represents a promising market for US energy companies and an opportunity for Sub-Saharan African countries to diversify from underperforming hydro plants. By tapping into this potentially vast and clean baseload resource, countries such as Ethiopia could achieve national energy security while advancing economic

growth and poverty alleviation efforts. But this win-win scenario requires significant energy sector reforms to improve the overall business environment, starting with Ethiopia's need to release its latest feed-in tariff bill (which has been stalled in Parliament since early summer 2009). Moreover, if Sub-Saharan countries begin to initiate vital reforms to improve investment climates, US agencies such as EXIM, OPIC, and TDA will need to, in line with the Obama national export strategy, review their policies to provide US companies with better access to trade financing for investment throughout sub-Saharan Africa. Without the strong backing of USG financing support, US companies will find it difficult to compete with their European and Asian counterparts in Africa.

Call for Specific Reforms: Energy sector reforms designed to improve the investment climate throughout much of eastern Africa should be encouraged. Examples include reducing red tape associated with licensing requirements, improving regulatory frameworks and building the capacity of regulators, improving the credit worthiness of utilities, and providing government guarantees to investors until tariffs

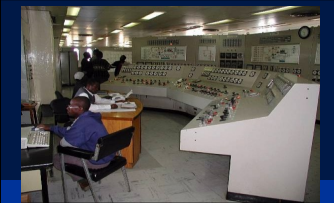
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This publication contains press reports that may or may not be accurate. Readouts do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the U.S. Government. For further information contact: REO Kirsten Bauman, BaumanKS@state.gov or RES Moges Worku WorkuM@state.gov.

Geothermal Steam Field



SOURCE: KENGEN and GDC



Control Room at Olkaria I Geothermal Plant

SOURCE: of all Kenya slides, KENGEN and GDC

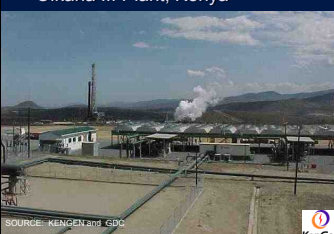
“Kenya is repeatedly cited as a good example of an African country which managed to attract investors and bring independent power projects to completion.”

Turbine



SOURCE: of all Kenya slides, KENGEN and GDC

Olkaria III Plant, Kenya



SOURCE: KENGEN and GDC

RENEWABLE ENERGY CONTINUED

Continued from page 1

reach appropriate levels necessary to support viable business models. **Can it Be Done?** Kenya is repeatedly cited as a good example of an African country which managed to attract investors and bring independent power projects to completion. In an April Reuters article on Africa's energy sector woes, Standard Bank's Director for CIB Project Finance Alastair Campbell said Kenya had succeeded in part because it had put cost-reflective tariffs in place and also instituted a system through which by currency fluctuations could be passed on to the end consumer, eliminating one risk investors shy away from. Moreover, the Government of Kenya created the 100% state-owned Geothermal Development Company (GDC) as a Special Purpose Vehicle to fast track the development of geothermal resources. The company's mission is to explore, develop, utilize, and market geothermal energy resources to allow for rapid geothermal development and support Kenya's energy needs in the least cost manner, to reduce dependence on imported fuel, and sustain economic growth. According to its website, GDC's mandate is to promote rapid development of geothermal resources in Kenya through surface

exploration and drilling for steam, to avail steam to power plant developers (who include KenGen and Independent power producers –IPPs) for electricity generation, to manage the geothermal reservoirs (where steam has been harnessed) to ensure constant supply of steam to KenGen and IPPs power generation, and to promote alternative uses of geothermal resources other than electricity generation (these include green house heating, drying of grains, pasteurizing milk, cooling and heating of rooms, among others). Kenya had traditionally relied on hydroelectricity, with perennial power outages, forcing the government to turn to emergency diesel power producers for electricity. This stop-gap measure both increased the cost of electricity and contributed to carbon emissions. The Government of Kenya therefore identified the country's untapped geothermal potential as the most suitable indigenous source of electricity and created the GDC based on the Energy Act No.12 of 2006 which un-bundled the key players in the electricity sector to ensure efficiency. According to its website, GDC plans include facilitating the drilling of 1400 steam wells to provide steam for the generation of 4,000MW to 5,000MW of geothermal power by 2030. The Government of

Kenya's forecast is to generate 15,000 MW, although today's total effective installed capacity is approximately 1330 MW. **Geothermal Investment and Climate Change Financing:** As the UN High Level Panel and Climate Change Financing continues to address how to develop and manage a climate change adaptation facility to support the world's most vulnerable countries, pending questions remain such as who will pay, how much, what qualifies as payment, and who is to be paid. With sums starting from \$100 billion per year beginning in 2020, the amount is no trivial matter. If investment in clean energy development in vulnerable countries is to qualify as a country's adaptation fund contribution, then geothermal development in Africa represents an opportunity for the USG to meet future climate change financing commitments. While this scenario is riddled with many ifs, it is possible to say that an American company investing in Africa's geothermal sector (given sufficient reforms are enacted to make the investment climate more conducive to foreign investment) could ostensibly invest millions of dollars in geothermal development that then could be applied toward a USG contribution to future climate change financing commitments.

ARGE-C3: The third bi-annual Africa Rift Geothermal conference (ARGE-C3) will be held in Djibouti, November 22-25, 2010. The conference is organized by the Centre d'Etude et de Recherche de Djibouti under the authority of the Presidential Office. The ARGE regional project is dedicated to the development of the clean geothermal resources mainly for energy production in the East African Rift region. The aim of the ARGE-C3 conference is to create an information exchange platform on the exploration, development, and utilization of the geothermal resources in the region. Participants include the international scientific geothermal community, academics, politicians, regulators, and investors. Conference topics will address surface and deep explorations, the development and utilization of the geothermal resources, new technologies and direct use, private sector investment, and various environmental, social, legal, institutional, economic and financial issues. According to conference organizers, the Government of Djibouti is committed to developing the environmentally sound geothermal energy source in order to overcome its growing energy demands and to support its economical development. Of twelve geothermal prospects identified in Djibouti, the Asal rift geothermal prospect is the most studied site. Both the African Rift Valley countries and the donor community use the ARGE conferences to lobby for increased USG engagement and U.S. private sector investment. If they are serious in this endeavor, however, REO pointed out that meetings should not be consistently held over the Thanksgiving holiday.

ACROSS ETHIOPIA

International Agricultural Training Center Visits REO

Ruth Fishman, Head of the International Agricultural Training Center (IATC) at the Galillee International Management Institute in Israel met with Regional Environment Office (REO) staff on May 12, 2010. She requested to brief the REO during her one-week visit in Africa, explaining the Galillee Institute's mission and describing its specific expertise and capabilities.

Galillee is a public, international management-training institution that offers advanced courses and capacity building seminars to professionals coming from all over the globe. Ruth Fishman described the institute's Agricul-

tural and Environmental courses, which include subjects in renewable energy, waste management, and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs). The institute also offers consultancy services and, if requested, can organize tailor-made courses. Funding for participants often comes through sponsorship or from their own governments. In addition to Agriculture and Environment the Institute also offers courses in Business Administration; Education; Health; Human Resources; National Security; NGOs; Ports and Maritime Transport; and Tourism. Since its establishment in 1987, the Institute has trained over 10,000

planners, senior managers, and decision makers from more than 152 transitional and industrialized countries around the globe including Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin and North America, the Middle East, and the Pacific. Most trainees came from public, private, and non-governmental institutions. All training includes both theoretical and practical aspects and last one to four weeks. Funding for the Institute's programs comes from a variety of sources that include private foundations, international development agencies (governmental and non-governmental), the European Union, and private contributions.

Ethiopia Launches an Academy of Science

REA and RES met with Professor Masresha Fetene, who served as the Vice President of the launching committee for newly formed Ethiopian Academy of Sciences (EAS), officially launched in an April 2010 ceremony. The opening ceremony included speeches by the new President of the EAS, Professor Demissie Habte; the President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Girma Wolde-Giorgis; the Foreign Secretary of the Royal Society; and Professor Lorna Casselton from the British Royal Society. The goal of the EAS is to create an

independent forum through which scientists can exchange ideas, knowledge, and experience while promoting the growth of the scientific community in Ethiopia. In addition, the science academy seeks to encourage and stimulate fact-based discussion around critical science and related technical policy issues, while serving as a consensus-building platform for setting priorities and approaches on problems of science, education, development, and research. EAS was established with 49 founding members drawn from the

disciplines of the natural sciences (13), social sciences and humanities (10), health sciences (8), engineering (7), agricultural sciences (9), and fine arts (2). Founding members were selected on merit, with the selection criteria included: professional contribution; international stature as a scholar/scientist/professional; contribution to the growth of one's field of specialization and institutional capacity building; and contribution to the growth of knowledge other than in the personal area of mobilization.

EU to the AU for Climate Change

REO and REA met with Francoise Villette, Counsellor for Climate Change and the Environment for the European Union Delegation to the African Union in late May 2010. The meeting highlighted the integrated nature of the climate change issue both from policy development aspects as well as an on the ground approach to mitigation and adaptation. Villette was encouraged by

the recent progress made and with the number of African states associating with the recent Copenhagen Accord. In addition, she believed the AU's approach to try to speak with a single voice through Prime Minister Meles was positive step and extremely important to better integrating Africa in the debate and policy discussions. She warned, however, while it was a

positive step, it should still be understood that there are numerous issues across the continent where climate change implications vary—each country and region will need to address individually. These differences could likely lead to some dissent as we move closer to next round of negotiations. Ultimately, however, Villette is optimistic for the future given current trends.



“The science academy seeks to encourage and stimulate fact-based discussion around critical science and related technical policy issues, while serving as a consensus-building platform for setting priorities and approaches on problems of science, education, development, and research.”



Photo from Nature News

WATER MATTERS

Think Tank Looks at the Future of the Nile Basin Initiative



White Nile, Bujagali Falls, Uganda

The Institute for Security Studies (ISS) think tank and the Ethiopian International Institute for Peace and Development (EIIPD) jointly convened a half-day public seminar in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on June 3, 2010, entitled “The Historical Dispute over the Sharing of the Nile: Breaking the Deadlock and charting a Way Forward.” Keynote speakers included Ethiopia’s Minister of Water Resources, Asfaw Din-gamo; The Associate Dena of the School of Law at the University of Nairobi, Kenya, Dr. Kithure Kindiki; and Associate Professor of the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, Dr. Yacob Arsano.

Most of the event involved speakers re-hashing legal arguments in great detail, with history lessons dating back to Pharaoh times and play-by-play reviews of NBI events and decisions since 1997. The tone was consistently pro-upstream, with Ethiopia’s Water Minister Asfaw taking full advantage of the opportunity to explain Ethiopia’s position to a room of participants that included government officials, riparian and donor ambassadors based in Ethiopia (including diplomats from India and China), academics, journalists, and NGO representatives. In terms of the current state of play, Asfaw noted that “the Entebbe Agreement does not jeopardize the water security of riparian states. It is all inclusive because the door is open for all Nile Basin countries to sign.” When asked by Canada and Brazil about next steps if Egypt does not sign the agreement by May 2011, speakers repeatedly dodged the question. Asfaw replied that “I am optimistic that

Egypt will sign.” Dr. Yacob Arsano from Addis Ababa University said that “Egypt will sign because to do otherwise would be counterproductive.”

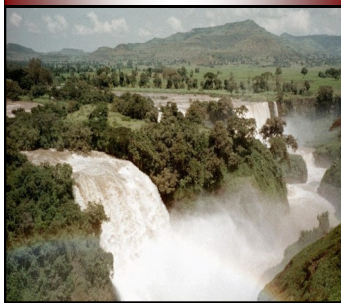
According to the legal expert, Dr. Kindiki, the CFA Entebbe agreement will become a valid, binding, legal treaty once at least six countries have ratified the document. He continued by pointing out that the treaty will only be legally binding on its signatory countries, meaning that Egypt and Sudan will not be subject to the treaty if they do not sign/ratify the document. Recognizing that this could cause financing challenges, with some countries perhaps finding it difficult to support a Nile River Basin Commission that excludes Egypt, a diplomat from Brazil asked how the upstream countries would finance projects if they do not have World Bank support. Asfaw replied that the Ethiopian people are ready and able to unilaterally fund projects in their interest if the World Bank is unwilling to provide support. In past meetings with USG officials, Asfaw has taken these opportunities to invoke “nontraditional” donor options. Interestingly, with Chinese and Indian diplomats present in the room during this seminar, Asfaw conspicuously did not mention their potential role.

Dr. Kindiki noted that the Nile is the only major transboundary river in Africa not bound by a legal and institutional regime. Without a structured legal framework to manage Nile water flows, there could be ample room for regional tensions and conflict in the future over water use. He further asserted, in his opinion, that the CFA impasse cannot be solved politically. Rather, he

said that it will take a legal ruling to solve what he called a “diametrically opposed” political standoff. He claimed that if the 1929 and 1959 treaties were taken to an international court, overwhelming odds are in favor of upstream countries (which means Egypt would never agree to go to court). He advised that the upstream and downstream countries should consider international arbitration as an alternative. Under this scenario, countries have more flexibility in determining legal parameters and in choosing ruling officials than they would have under an international court arrangement.

Mired in a climate of confusion, suspicion, and acrimony, with mounting vitriolic rhetoric from both upstream and downstream countries, the future of a Nile River Basin Commission hangs in the balance with potential dire consequences for the region. Seminar speakers clearly felt that the upstream position is the only reasonable way forward, repeatedly stressing that Egypt will eventually cave and sign the agreement by the May 2011 deadline. Based on discussions and interventions at the seminar, the speakers did not seem willing or able to address the need for a plan B beyond claims of unilateral self-funding.

The next Nile Council of Ministers (Nile-COM) meeting will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, June 26-27, 2010. Ethiopia will be the Nile-COM chair, having assumed the one-year rotating chairmanship from Egypt. The World Bank Nile Team leader, a UNDP donor trust fund representative, and various donor country representatives have been invited to attend the open sessions.



Blue Nile Falls, Ethiopia

CONSERVATION CORNER

HoA-REC Convenes Strategy Session with Donor Community

The Horn of Africa Regional Environment Center and Network convened a strategic planning workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on June 2, 2010. Largely funded by The Netherlands, it is an autonomous, regional environmental institution within Addis Ababa University that organizes, strengthens, and advocates for initiatives and activities relating to environmental conservation and rehabilitation while promoting sustainable technologies and integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation. The planning workshop highlighted its three major areas of activity: climate change; biodiversity, conservation, and rehabilitation; and renewable energy development. Professor Sabine Troger described HoA-REC's Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Partnership Program that involved a research project which targeted 13 sites in Ethiopia. The study determined that the Western regions of Ethiopia had experienced delayed rains, increased temperatures, and a changing nature of rainfall (hail, wind, extreme downpours). In the eastern study regions, the study areas experienced shortened or failed rains, delayed

rains, and an increase in temperatures. The study results will be used in developing adaptation measures for affected communities. Next steps include identifying two pilot sites to initiate alternative or supplementary livelihood projects to reduce community dependence on subsistence farming that relies on rain-fed agriculture. Moreover, given that Ethiopia has one of the largest population of sheep and goats in Africa, many are dependent on livestock-based livelihoods, that, if improperly managed, can have devastating impacts on the environment. The two HoA-REC climate change adaptation pilot projects, therefore, will incorporate rangeland management, veterinary services, and improved access to markets, into their climate change program. The Biodiversity Program involves a Parks and Buffer Zone Management Program that has conducted two aerial surveys to better map a transboundary Ethiopia-Sudan White Tailed Kopp migration. The Program addresses land use management issues and community-based development to avoid encroachment conflict. The Biodiversity Program also in-

cludes a Horn Re-greening Program and a Rift Valley Conservation Program that works with communities to develop eco-tourism business development plans. HoA-REC also highlighted its Renewable Energy Program. In an effort to confront an extreme overdependence on biomass energy (the speaker claimed that 95% of rural energy comes from unsustainably cut fuel wood or dung), HoA-REC is working with local officials to design solid and liquid waste management plans in both rural and urban areas. In particular, HoA-REC is working with Addis Ababa city officials to begin the process of addressing a solution to Repi—Addis Ababa's notorious open landfill dump that sprawls virtually unregulated over approximately 37 hectares. To address deforestation in rural areas, the HoA-REC Energy Program is promoting solar cook stoves, with strong support from organizations for the blind. In addition to decreasing the rate of deforestation and improving indoor breathing conditions, solar cook stoves reduce the incidence of fire burns from vulnerable populations, such as children and the blind.

“(There will be) no international conference on illegal logging (taking place in Madagascar) will be organized until a new Government of Madagascar is in place.” - Norwegian Ambassador to Antananarivo, Madagascar

Illegal Logging of Rosewood Continues in Madagascar

According to U.S. Embassy Antananarivo, during a pre-planning meeting in Paris on May 28 regarding an international logging conference, conference organizers decided to postpone a discussion on the ongoing problems in Madagascar until there is a recognized Government of Madagascar in place. The Norwegian Ambassador to Antananarivo who attended the Paris meeting reported that France, Norway, EU, German and UNESCO participated in the meeting. In terms of decisions,

he noted that no international conference on illegal logging will be organized until a new GOM is in place (because GOM officials cannot be invited). The group also identified the illegal logging sites in Madagascar (Masoala and Marojejy National Parks) as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Moreover, the group recommended that these sites be placed on the World Heritage Sites "In Danger List." The purpose is not to proceed with a delisting of the sites but to draw attention to and attract possible

resources which can alleviate the illegal logging crisis. CGM (a shipping company) attended the meeting and confirmed that a series of containers have been actually shipped to China. The Norwegian Ambassador also said that the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) scheduled to meet in Mali June 21-25, as well as the one to take place in Japan, might present an appropriate forum to convey messages on the explosion of illegal trade of rosewood in Madagascar.

ESTH Conference

U.S. Embassy Dar Es Salaam hosted a bi-annual Environment, Science, Technology, and Health (ESTH) conference in Tanzania May 25-27. Conference participants included USG and locally engaged staff (LES) ESTH officers from across Africa, representatives from Bureau of Oceans, Environment, and Science (OES) from the Department of State in Washington, DC, USAID staff, NGO representatives, AFRICOM, and other USG agencies. OES Assistant Secretary, Dr. Kerri-Ann Jones, attended the conference and delivered a keynote speech. U.S. Ambassador to Tanzania, Ambassador Alfonso E. Lenhardt, also delivered a welcoming address to the group of participants where he highlighted the rising importance of ESTH issues in foreign policy. In addition to a myriad of presentations from technical experts in the field, digital video conferences with key policy makers in Washington, and a half-day site visit to a USAID-sponsored coastal conservation project, the conference also featured regional breakouts where ESTH officers met with their corresponding regional environmental officers (REOs) to focus and discuss issues pertinent to their regions. This event provided an invaluable opportunity to network and learn more about the priorities in OES and throughout other USG agencies. It was also an ideal venue for those of us in the field to share with each other and with Washington our observations about key ESTH issues and trends affecting USG interests. From climate change policy, waste management challenges, and renewable energy development, to brainstorming science and technology and health outreach possibilities and identifying best practices in issues such as wa-

tershed management and land degradation, the conference targeted major issues that we will be increasingly called upon to address. A special thanks to Matt Gerdin in OES/PCI for organizing the successful event, and to ESTH officer at the U.S. Embassy in Dar Es Salaam, Emily Shaffer, for her support.

Conference Expectations: Asked in advanced what conference participants expected to get out of the event, below are examples of their input:

- 1) How do we get ESTH issues to receive priority attention at post?
- 2) What is the relationship between an Econ/ Commercial Section and USAID when addressing ESTH issues?
- 3) How do we improve inter-agency collaboration on ESTH issues?
- 4) Can we, as State Department officers, gain access to financial resources so as to better address ESTH issues? For example, when targeting water and health?
- 5) What are the ESTH priorities in Washington? How can we best focus our reporting?
- 6) What is the role of the Department of Defense in development?
- 7) How do we incorporate ESTH issues into traditional portfolios and reporting requirements?

Why are ESTH Issues Relevant:

One of the key purposes of the ESTH conference in Africa was to address this fundamental question. With many short-staffed embassies tacking on the ESTH portfolio to first or second tour officers working in busy US Embassy Economic sections and often wearing several other hats, it is no surprise to discover that ESTH issues can be rele-

gated to the background. Speakers from various USG agencies, U.S. embassies throughout Africa, and NGOs, however, emphasized that environmental outreach is at the core of U.S. foreign policy, with the ESTH officers advancing soft power diplomacy to promote sustainable development in the region. Cross-cutting environmental challenges such as adaptation to climate change, lack of access to reliable and affordable sources of energy, and increased competition for stressed and limited natural resources such as water, grazing land, forest cover, and other land and marine-based resources increasingly threaten to undermine economic opportunity, political stability, and human potential throughout eastern Africa. Moreover, these transboundary environmental challenges can be sources of transborder and/or tribal conflicts, carrying the potential to destabilize regional peace and stability.

Assistant Secretary Dr. Kerri-Ann Jones: OES A/S Jones addressed many of the participants' requests for information when she delivered an opening address to the room full of approximately 50 participants. Her talk focused on three key areas—general messages, priorities from the OES perspective, and a discussion of challenges. In her general message on trends in USG foreign policy, she stressed that there is a high level commitment to the rebalancing of the three pillars (diplomacy, defense, and development) of US foreign policy, with a focus on the “whole of government” approach that integrates cross-cutting issues across USG agencies. Dr. Jones also touched upon the important role science has to play in diplomacy, stating

Continued on the next page



Touring Coastal Conservation Site



Map of Protected Areas

“...environmental outreach is at the core of U.S. foreign policy, with the ESTH officers advancing soft power diplomacy to promote sustainable development in the region.”



Greeted by Cultural Dancers



Promoting Historical/Cultural Tourism

ESTH Conference

ESTH Conference Continued

that science diplomacy is a proven method for kick starting dialogue, deepening engagement to build strong partnerships, and ultimately solving problems. Dr. Jones highlighted five major OES priorities that will be at the forefront of USG foreign policy. These transboundary ESTH issues include climate change, global health diplomacy, food security initiatives, water challenges, and conservation efforts to protect biodiversity. The rollout of a USG policy on climate change will involve a whole of government approach. With many African countries topping the list of those most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, and given possible importance of Africa's forests to address mitigation through CDM, REDD, or other climate financing mechanisms, Africa will likely be at the heart of international climate change policy discussions. On global health, Africa bares a high burden of disease and therefore represents unique opportunities for health diplomacy engagement. From pandemic preparedness and responsiveness, to vaccinations, surveillance, and preventative health care, health-related outreach and engagement in Africa is vast and open ended. Regarding food security, Dr. Jones said that USAID will lead the massive USG food security initiative with support from the Department of State and other government agencies. This initiative can be used to build and strengthen science networks through investment in agricultural research and development. She rounded out her presentation by highlighting the significant and cross-cutting challenges that increased water scarcity and poor water and sanitation represents for Africa. USAID in coordination

with the Department of State, with high level support coming from Secretary of State Clinton and Under Secretary Otero, will focus on improving clean water access worldwide. Finally, Dr. Jones reminded the conference participants that 2010 is the year of biodiversity. She concluded that Africa faces all the global challenges that are key to security and stability, and that soft power diplomacy using ESTH outreach represents a promising method for engagement. She reminded ESTH officers to use the tools at their disposal, creating linkages to and establishing relationships with US Embassy Public Affairs staff, the Public Affairs bureau in Washington, and the Regional Environment Officers responsible for Africa.

The Role of the REOs: The conference was used, in part, as a platform to highlight and explain the role of the Regional Environment Offices (REOs) as a unique resource to environment, science and technology, and health (ESTH) officers throughout Africa. There are three Regional Environment Offices (REOs) based in Africa: Eastern Africa based in Ethiopia, Southern Africa based in Botswana, and Western and Central Africa based in Ghana. The REOs are tasked with reporting on transboundary ESTH issues throughout their respective countries of responsibility. The REO for eastern Africa, for example, covers Ethiopia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Sudan, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Mauritius, Seychelles, Madagascar, and Comoros and supports the bilateral ESTH needs of Embassies in these countries. REOs, together with ESTH officers throughout Africa, address transboundary ESTH challenges by combining diplomatic initiative with development partnerships

geared toward building political will and the capacity to sustainably manage natural resources, protect the environment, and marshal science and technology to enhance productivity and opportunity. This involves, among other things, strengthening the capacity of eastern African countries to effectively comply with and enforce their environmental laws and cooperate with neighbors in the enforcement of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to promote sound environmental management throughout the region. REOs stressed that they, while working with and providing support to ESTH officers throughout their respective regions, serve as the glue to ensure that transboundary environmental objectives throughout the respective regions align with and support the State Department's regional strategies. Interfacing with inter-agency counterparts such as USAID, DoD, CDC, EPA, USGS, USFS, USFWS, NPS, DoE, USDA, Treasury, EXIM, OPIC, NOAA, and others, REOs and ESTH officers can play a key role in building "whole-of-government" teams to address these complex, transboundary ESTH issues.

Recommendations: REOs would be more effective in supporting ESTH officers if REOs would draw direct linkages between ESTH issues and political/economic matters that traditionally drive pol-econ sections; monthly telcons would be useful to improve REO-ESTH communication to better streamline regional ESTH strategic objectives, ESTH officers and REOs should better integrate with Public Affairs Sections to tap into resources that help amplify our messages; there is room for engagement with AFRICOM on ESTH issues; and OES and Washington are hungry for ESTH reporting.



Greeted at Municipal Headquarters



Supporting Local Craftsmen

OES Assistant Secretary Dr. Kerri-Ann Jones highlighted five major OES priorities that will be at the forefront of USG foreign policy: climate change, global health diplomacy, food security initiatives, water challenges, and conservation efforts to protect biodiversity.



Sustainable Fishing through Protected Areas



USAID Supports Seaweed Farmers



Kenya's PM Odinga said "the major impact of climate change on African water systems will be through changes in the hydrological cycle, critically affecting the development of a country."



AROUND THE REGION—KENYA

Climate Change and Natural Resource Use in Eastern Africa: Impacts, Adaptation, and Mitigation

RES attended the Ecological Society for Eastern Africa (ESEA) meeting in Kenya May 19-21, 2010. The conference was opened by Kenya's PM Raila Odinga and was attended by participants from African countries including Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda as well as India and Indonesia. Over 60 papers addressing issues such as climate change impacts, mitigation, and adaptation were presented. The plenary session included presentations from FAO (Rome & Kenya offices); the Nairobi based Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA); Kenya's Ministry of Environment & Mineral Resources (MME), and Kenya's National Environmental management Agency (NEMA). Kenya's Prime Minister Odinga's opening remarks identified the East Africa Region as one of the regions most affected by climate change and described Kenya's Climate Change Response Strategy. Odinga told the audience that warming in Africa is likely to be larger than the global annual mean warming across the globe and in all seasons, with the drier sub-tropical regions warming more than the moister tropics, that warming will be greatest in semi-arid regions of sub-Saharan Africa, especially the east Africa region. He said that the major impact of climate change on African water systems will be through changes in the hydrological cycle, critically affecting the development of a country. Consequently, many countries will shift from water-surplus to water-scarce states by 2025. Currently, more than 25 African countries are expected to experience water stress over the next 20 to 30 years and it is projected that about 480 million people will be affected. Odinga's

speech also asserted unprecedented increases in climate change-related disease outbreaks in the East Africa region since 1988. Increased incidences of malaria, cholera, rift-valley fever, and meningitis, all of which were attributed to climate variability, were cited. He added that recent studies in the Lake Victoria Basin have revealed temperature rises between 0.5°C in the lowlands and up to 3.6°C in the highlands since the late 1970s, and that malaria and cholera have been associated with these warming and precipitation trends. An estimated additional 21 to 67 million people will be at risk of malaria by the 2080s. In areas where the majority of the population depends on subsistence rain-fed agriculture, these changes could have significant impacts on food production and people's livelihoods. Citing various factors to explain the very low adaptive capacity of Africa to climate change impacts, Odinga also declared that Kenya would like to be at the forefront of implementing effective and sustainable climate change adaptation and mitigation measures among the developing countries. The PM's opening address mentioned a number of policy initiatives that seek to create a conducive environment for the coordination, prioritization, and harmonization of development issues as well as for ensuring an efficient, effective, and well coordinated systems of forestalling and managing disasters. He cited a climate change policy that is being developed and will serve as an overarching cross-sectoral policy, and added that the recently launched climate change response strategy highlights ways in which the government of Kenya intends to under-

take bankable adaptation and mitigation projects and programs in agriculture, energy, water, health, livestock, fisheries, infrastructure, and land-use planning. Each ministry will be expected to climate proof all of its activities and projects. A climate change desk will be located in key ministries such as the Planning and Vision 2030 (to factor climate change in national planning process), and the Ministry of Finance (to coordinate financial resources and ensure that the budgeting process provides resources to address climate change), in addition to the Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources. The PM's office will also establish and convene task forces to address climate change-relevant issues. The PM expressed confidence that Kenya will be totally green in power generation by 2017 and he noted that a green-energy task force is in the process of securing more than US\$ 1 billion to finance more than 3000 MW from geothermal, wind, and co-generation by 2013. Presentations by representatives of FAO expressed FAO's readiness to join hands with partners and stakeholders. Two main concerns emerged: the perception that the eastern Africa region is one of the most affected and vulnerable regions to climate change impacts, and the government's responsibility to focus on climate change adaptation measures. One presentation was also a call for African countries to dissociate themselves from the Copenhagen Accord on the basis that a 2°C increase in average global temperature is very high for Africa to bear. Many put the blame for polluting on the developed world, and called for the enforcement of the 'polluter pays' principle.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Clinton Climate Initiative Projects in Eastern Africa

Below is an overview of the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) programs in Ethiopia and the eastern Africa region.

Waste Management in Ethiopia:

In 2007, CCI partnered with the Addis Ababa Mayor Berhanu to advise on an integrated solid waste management project, developing a business case that outlined suitable technologies, costs, revenues, and potential financial structures. Following elections, this project was deprioritized by the new administration. However, in March, CCI met with the Mayor Kuma and he expressed interest in moving forward with and reengaging us in the project. His administration rejected the two landfill sites that were previously evaluated and has recommended a third site, for which the business case needs to be redeveloped. With support from the AFD, the administration is currently retaining consultants to update the business case. CCI is exploring a potential role, which may include assisting with the tender process

and identification of funding to fill any funding gap that may be shown to exist.

Waste Management in Tanzania:

CCI has partnered with the Dar es Salaam City Council to advise on an organic waste treatment project. CCI has been assisting with the tender process and will continue to provide support throughout the project development process.

Forestry in Tanzania and Kenya:

In both Tanzania and Kenya, CCI has partnered with the national governments to advise on the design and implementation of forest protection and reforestation projects that improve livelihoods in forest dependent communities. In Tanzania, CCI is focused on a REDD+ project in the Angai Village Land Forest Reserve. In Kenya, CCI is focused on a in reforestation project in Enoosupukia Forest Trust Land within the Mau Forest Complex. CCI is also working with both governments to advise on the creation of national monitoring, reporting, and verification

(MRV) systems that can quantify forest carbon stocks and enable projects to attract investment.

Climate Finance: In CCI's experience developing large-scale clean energy and emissions reduction projects globally, it has found that the most significant barriers to their implementation are access to and cost of capital. CCI has developed a set of ideas about how governments can most efficiently and effectively stimulate private investment in such projects, which could be incorporated into mechanisms such as the "Copenhagen Green Climate Fund." CCI staff expects that its Chairman may want to brief Prime Minister Meles on these ideas in the coming months, with his global leadership role in the ongoing climate change negotiations, especially as it pertains to climate finance.

Contact: Please let REO Kirsten Bauman (BaumanKS@state.gov) know if you'd like additional information and we can put you in touch with relevant CCI contacts.

CAHOSCC—The Conference of African Heads of State and Governments on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) will meet at the July 19-27, 2010 African Union Summit in a closed session in Kampala. Participation is not yet confirmed, but it is assumed that most of the twelve CAHOSCC representatives will be in attendance. The US Mission to the AU does not expect to see the Summit agenda for some time, but will keep missions apprised as the information becomes available. CAHOSCC representatives will likely also be in attendance at the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) meeting in Mali in June.

AMCEN—The African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) will meet in Mali in June 21-25. AMCEN is a permanent forum where African ministers of the environment discuss mainly matters of relevance to the environment of the continent. The conference is organized with the involvement of UNEP. Attendees include African environment ministers. The theme for the thirteenth session of AMCEN is "Enhancing the interrelationship between climate change, biodiversity and desertification for sustainable development." The main objective of the thirteenth session is to provide a platform for environment ministers to deliberate on substantive issues of importance to Africa which must be addressed in the context of desertification, as well as the ongoing negotiations on climate change and biodiversity. It is envisaged that the dialogue will lead to adoption of Africa's current negotiating position on climate change; the continent's negotiating position on the international regime on Access and Benefit-sharing of genetic resources (ABS); and adoption of a comprehensive framework of African climate change programs. OES Amanda Vockerodt would like to know which AMCEN ministers will be attending. Please advise who will be attending from your host countries at your earliest convenience (email REO Kirsten Bauman: BaumanKS@state.gov)

Kenya Associates

**with the
Copenhagen
Accord
NAIROBI 1634**

Inscribed and Associated

Eritrea

Ethiopia

Madagascar

Only Associated

Burundi

Djibouti

Rwanda

Uganda

Kenya

Tanzania

Non-Associators

Mauritius

Seychelles

Sudan

Comoros

Somalia

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship Opportunities

The socio-ecological research group GETIDOS is offering a three-month fellowship for a junior researcher in Fall 2010. Fellows are expected to support the preparation of a field study in Kenya and will be given the opportunity to carry out independent research in a lively interdisciplinary and international environment. The fellowship includes travel expenses and a monthly stipend. For further information please see http://www.botanik.uni-greifswald.de/fileadmin/getidos/pdfdownload/CallForFellow_05_05_2010.pdf or www.getidos.net. The deadline for application is **11 June**.

The Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Program is now accepting applications for the 2011-2012 session. The deadline for submissions is **August 15**.

The Fellowship Program is provides funded opportunities for advanced capacity development in ocean affairs, the law of the sea, and related disciplines to government officials and other ocean-related professionals from developing States. The Program consists of two phases: a six month research and study phase, followed by a three-month training phase. Required qualifications: candidates must be 25-40 years old, possess a first university degree or equivalent, and demonstrate an ability to undertake advanced academic research. A detailed outline of qualifications, the application forms, additional Fellowship Program information, and the current list of participating institutions is available on the following website: <http://www.un.org/depts/los/nippon>.

Projects and Opportunities in the Region

Global Environment Facility (GEF) Projects: Please find the following 11 African projects included in the GEF Intercessional Work Program, along with the PIF (Project Information Form) and the STAP comments (Science and Technical Review) at the following link: <http://thegef.org/gef/intersessional>. The GEF is intended to provide the incremental cost to achieve global environmental benefit. The proposals given are in their beginning stages, and posts are likely to receive more detailed proposals for our consideration as these projects progress. If you have any concerns regarding any aspect of the projects proposed in your region, please send your comments to Nicole Gibson (gibsonkn@state.gov) and/or (blumenfeldse@state.gov) as soon as possible.

The U.S. National Parks Service Journal is a product of the U.S. National Park Service that accepts articles from authors outside the US. Please encourage academics or practitioners who work on cultural heritage projects/issues to submit articles. You can see that the articles run a wide gamete of subjects: http://crmjournl.cr.nps.gov/97_sub_main.cfm

AMCOW: Attention: the Voluntary Visitor proposal to bring African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) Executive Secretariat members to the U.S. this September for a two-week study tour has been announced. The tour includes a week of consultations in Washington DC and participation in a two-day workshop at the Emory University Center for Global Safe Water in Atlanta, Georgia. Contact Alice Chu at ChuAR@state.gov.

May-June ESTH Cables of Interest

Date	Location	Reference Number	Project Description
04/01	STATE	32247	PROJECT DESCRIPTION - FY 10 AFRP: "AGRICULTURE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
05/03	STATE	45224	GREEN TIPS: SAVE INK BY CHANGING FONTS
05/04	STATE	45756	DEMARCHÉ REQUEST ON THE NILE BASIN INITIATIVE
05/04	ADDIS ABAB	978	2010-2012 REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT HUB WORK PLAN FOR ADDIS ABABA
05/05	STATE	46309	PRELIMINARY PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY-10 MRP "WATER RESOURCES PROTECTION IN THE U.S." SEPT. 13 - OCT. 1
05/05	ABIDJAN	480	IVOIRIAN OFFICIALS SUGGEST REGIONAL APPROACH ON CLIMATE CHANGE
05/06	ADDIS ABAB	990	NILE BASIN TRUST FUND CONFERENCE: SUCCESSFUL CONFUSION
05/07	NEW DELHI	891	INDIA CLEARS GREEN TRIBUNAL BILL
05/07	STATE	47540	USG-CO-HOSTED DISCUSSION ON RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AGRICULTURAL SECTORS: OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS
05/11	DAR ES SAL	468	TANZANIA TO SIGN COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT ON THE NILE
05/12	NAIROBI	1350	KENYA SET TO SIGN COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON THE NILE
05/18	STATE	51327	High-Level Roll-out of USG's Feed the Future Public Strategy
05/18	ABIDJAN	526	MARINE FISHERIES CHALLENGES IN COTE D'IVOIRE
05/18	ABIDJAN	524	WASTE MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IN ABIDJAN
05/20	STATE	52388	MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AUTHORIZATIONS
05/21	UN ROME	108	Netherlands and FAO Plan November Conference on Agriculture and Climate Change
05/28	NAIROBI	1596	KENYA FLOODS UPDATE #2
05/28	ABUJA	1218	NIGERIA ASSOCIATES WITH COPENHAGEN CLIMATE CHANGE ACCORD
06/03	STATE	57418	HHS OPENS NEW SAFETY REPORTING PORTAL
06/02	OSLO	322	REDD PLUS: OSLO CLIMATE AND FOREST CONFERENCE A SUCCESS
06/02	NAIROBI	1600	KENYA - MAU FOREST HUMANITARIAN UPDATE
06/08	BEIJING	1360	S&ED Breakout Session on Climate Change Focuses on Copenhagen Accord Follow-up



**Department of State
Regional Environment
Newsletter—East Africa**

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REO links

Internet: http://ethiopia.usembassy.gov/environment_office.html

Intranet: <http://addisababa.state.gov/REO/index.asp>

Newsletter: http://addisababa.state.gov/REO_Newsletter/

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Regional Environment Officer Responsibilities: Environmental outreach is at the core of U.S. foreign policy, with Regional Environment Officers advancing soft power diplomacy to promote sustainable development worldwide. The Regional Environment Office (REO) for eastern Africa is responsible for covering transboundary environment, science and technology and health issues from a policy perspective across 14 countries in eastern Africa. Cross-cutting environmental challenges such as adaptation to climate change, lack of access to reliable and affordable sources of energy, and increased competition for stressed and limited natural resources such as water, grazing land, forest cover, and other land and marine-based resources increasingly threaten to undermine economic opportunity, political stability, and human potential in Ethiopia and the region. The need for capacity building is a common denominator throughout eastern Africa and policy makers want know-how and enhanced capacity for a wide range of needs including creating long-term energy strategies, combating deforestation and land degradation, and advancing wildlife conservation efforts. REO efforts are aimed at addressing some of these capacity shortfalls—particularly within the framework of transboundary initiatives such as the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) and the African Rift Valley Geothermal Initiative (ARGeo). Specific REO activities in Ethiopia include encouraging the continued development of geothermal energy production in Ethiopia, representing USG in NBI donor conferences and donor meetings, and continued monitoring of land degradation and its impacts on watersheds in several sites throughout Ethiopia.

Upcoming 2010 Events

June 8-12	International Energy Program Evaluation Conference, Paris, France
June 10-14	3 rd Specialized International Exhibition in Agriculture and Food, “Development: A Goal We Must Target,” Ethiopia
June 21-25	The African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), Mali
June 28-July 2	Spill Preparedness and Response Workshop, AFRICOM, Seychelles
June 29-July 4	Africa Energy Forum 2010, Basel, Switzerland
July 18-31	Energy and the Environment: Challenges on the Way to Sustainable Energy Transmission, Greifswald, Germany
July 19-27	African Union Summit, Kampala, Uganda
July 28-30	Spill Preparedness and Response Workshop, AFRICOM, Mauritius
Aug 31-Sept 3	East Africa Power Industry Convention, Geothermal Power Summit, Nairobi, Kenya
Sept 5-11	World Water Week 2010: The Water Quality Challenge
Sept 12-16	XXI World Energy Congress—Energy Transition for a Living Planet, Montreal, Canada
Oct 5-7	Emerging Economic Mechanisms: Implications for Forest-Related Policies and Sector Governance, Rome, Italy
Oct 20-22	CANEUS-Shared Small Satellites CSSP (Collective Security, Safety, and Prosperity) International Workshop, NATO Undersea Research Center (NURC) La Spezia, Italy
Oct 25-29	3 rd Fire Behavior and Fuels Conference, Washington, DC
October	Nile Basin Trust Fund Meeting, Copenhagen, Denmark
November 22-25	Africa Rift Geothermal conference, Djibouti

Message from Alice Chu, Public Affairs Outreach Officer in the Bureau of Oceans, Environment, and Science (OES)

For your reference, below are links to OES's main webpage:

- OES home Page: <http://www.state.gov/g/oes/index.htm>
- Water issues page: <http://www.state.gov/g/oes/index.htm> (includes Sec. Clinton's World Water Day remarks/video)
- And OES's Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/usdos.oes?ref=ts>

If your post has environment, science, technology, and health (ESTH) related activities you'd like to share, please send them to Alice Chu at ChuAR@state.gov and she'll be happy to post them on OES's Facebook site. She also asks that if your post maintains a Post Facebook site, to please “friend/fan” the OES Facebook site so that we are mutually “befriended.”